

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): ~~Water-soluble copolymers~~ A clear, water-soluble copolymer of

a) a monoethylenically unsaturated, acid-group-containing ~~monomers~~ monomer and

b) at least one of the following copolymerizable hydrophobic components that contains an unsaturated double bond

b1) an acyclic, monocyclic and/or bicyclic terpene,

b2) an unsaturated, open-chain or cyclic, normal or isomeric hydrocarbon with 8 to 30 carbon atoms, and

b3) an unsaturated fatty alcohol with respectively 8 to 30 carbon atoms and its esters or amides with saturated aliphatic alcohols, amines and acids, ~~characterized in that the copolymers are formed by radical copolymerization of components a) and b) in the aqueous phase.~~

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): ~~Copolymers~~ The copolymer according to claim 1, characterized in that ~~wherein~~ the monoethylenically unsaturated, acid-group-containing ~~monomers are composed of~~ monomer comprises a monoethylenically unsaturated monocarboxylic ~~acids~~ acid.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): ~~Copolymers~~ The copolymer according to claim 1-~~and 2~~, characterized in that ~~wherein~~ the acid-group-containing ~~monomers are chosen~~ monomer is a member selected from the group comprising acrylic acid, methacrylic acid and/or and vinylacetic acid.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): ~~Copolymers~~ The copolymer according to claim 1 to 3, wherein characterized in that the monoethylenically unsaturated, acid-group-containing monomers are composed of monomer comprises a monoethylenically unsaturated monocarboxylic, a acids and monoethylenically unsaturated sulfonic acids acid or both.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): ~~Copolymers~~ The copolymer according to claim 1 to 4, wherein characterized in that the acid groups in the monomers monomer are neutralized in a proportion of 1 to 75%.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): ~~Copolymers~~ The copolymer according to claim 1 to 5, wherein characterized in that the acid groups in the monomers monomer are neutralized in a proportion of 5 to 30%.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): ~~Copolymers~~ The copolymer according to claim 1 to 6, wherein characterized in that the copolymerizable component is an acyclic terpene and/or a monocyclic and/or bicyclic terpene hydrocarbon.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): ~~Copolymers~~ The copolymer according to claim 1 to 7, wherein characterized in that the proportion of component b) ranges from 0.001 to 50 wt%.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): ~~Copolymers~~ The copolymer according to claim 8, wherein characterized in that the proportion of component b) ranges from 0.01 to 30 wt%.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): ~~Copolymers~~ The copolymer according to claim 1 to 9, further comprising characterized in that they contain up to 40 wt% of an acid-group-free, water-soluble ~~monomers c)~~ monomer.

Claim 11 (Currently Amended): ~~Copolymers~~ The copolymer according to claim 1 to 10, having characterized in that they have a weight-average molecular weight of smaller than or equal to 500,000 g/mol.

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): ~~Copolymers~~ The copolymer according to claim 11, having characterized in that they have a weight-average molecular weight of between 1,000 and 10,000 g/mol.

Claim 13 (Currently Amended): A method for synthesis of a water-soluble copolymer according to claim 1 to 12, comprising forming the copolymer characterized in that the copolymers are formed by radical polymerization of the monomer components in the aqueous phase.

Claim 14 (Currently Amended): A method according to claim 13, characterized in that wherein the concentration of the copolymerizable constituents in the aqueous polymerization mixture is 10 to 70 wt%.

Claim 15 (Currently Amended): A method according to claim 13 or 14, wherein characterized in that the component b) is used in the form of an oil-in-water emulsion, which that is formed from a hydrophobic phase (oil phase), at least one emulsifier and water.

Claim 16 (Currently Amended): A method according to claim 13 to 15, wherein characterized in that the radical polymerization is carried out in the presence of molecular-weight regulators.

Claim 17 (Currently Amended): ~~The use of the copolymers according to claim 1 to 12 to prevent~~ A method for preventing organic, inorganic and mixed organic/inorganic deposits in ~~a~~ water-conveying systems system comprising applying to the system an effective amount of the copolymer of claim 1.

Claim 18 (Currently Amended): ~~The use of the copolymers~~ method according to claim 17 applied in service water or wastewater systems, in cooling loops, in seawater desalination plants, in reverse osmosis systems, and for conditioning of brackish water and in the recovery of sugar from sugar beet, especially for treatment of aqueous suspensions containing chopped sugar beet.

Claim 19 (Currently Amended): ~~The use of the copolymers~~ method according to claim 18 applied in the recovery of sugar from sugar beet for treatment of aqueous suspensions containing chopped sugar beet.

Claim 20 (Currently Amended): ~~The use of the copolymers~~ method according to claim 17 to 19, wherein characterized in that the copolymers are copolymer is added to the water-conveying system in a proportion of 0.1 to 5000 ppm.

Claim 21 (Currently Amended): The ~~use of the copolymers~~ method according to claim 20, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the ~~copolymers are~~ copolymer is added to the water-conveying system in a proportion of 1 to 100 ppm.

Claim 22 (Currently Amended): ~~The use of the copolymers according to claim 1 to 12 as auxiliary agents in the~~ A method for grinding and dispersing of pigments comprising grinding and dispersing pigments in the presence of an auxiliary agent comprising the copolymer of claim 1.

Claim 23 (Currently Amended): ~~The use of the copolymers according to claim 1 to 12 as auxiliary agents in cleaning agent and washing agent formulations as well as in~~ A textile-treatment and leather-treatment processes comprising treating a textile or leather with the copolymer of claim 1.

Claim 24 (New): A cleaning-agent or washing-agent formulation comprising as an auxiliary agent the copolymer of claim 1.